

STATE OF VERMONT  
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

Docket No. 7284

Investigation into Central Vermont Public Service       )  
Corporation's 2007 Integrated Resource Plan                )

Order entered: 10/17/2011

**ORDER DENYING EXTENSION FOR FILING IRP**

On August 9, 2010, the Public Service Board ("Board") approved Central Vermont Public Service Corporation's ("CVPS" or "the Company") Integrated Resource Plan ("IRP"). The Board directed CVPS to file its next IRP on April 1, 2011. At the Company's request, on March 31, 2011, the Board extended the date for filing the IRP until October 1, 2011.

On September 28, 2011, just before the deadline for submission of the IRP, CVPS filed a request for a further extension of time for submission of the IRP. The Company now seeks to defer the filing until six months after the conclusion of the pending proceedings related to CVPS's proposed acquisition by Gaz Metro Limited Partnership and merger with Green Mountain Power Corporation ("GMP") (the Board is reviewing the acquisition in Docket No. 7770). CVPS asserts that "the objective and scope of the necessary planning efforts to be deployed in both the development and review of a CVPS IRP would vary" depending upon the outcome of the proposed merger. CVPS states that it continues to implement the existing IRP, which the Company considers adequate at present. CVPS represents that the Department of Public Service joins its request.

The Board acknowledges that CVPS has entered into an arrangement under which it would merge with GMP. As CVPS contends, the IRP may well change if the merger is approved and integrated resource planning is performed for the larger company. At the same time, CVPS is the largest electric utility in Vermont even before the potential merger, and as such the potential adverse consequences of operating under an outdated IRP could be much more severe than they might be for smaller utilities. It has been more than four years since CVPS filed its last

IRP.<sup>1</sup> It may be, as CVPS contends, that the approaches set out in the last IRP are still adequate for the present. However, CVPS has not submitted any information that would permit the Board to reach such a conclusion. The Board also does not know if CVPS has reevaluated the approaches and plans in its last IRP and concluded that they should be adapted. Moreover, CVPS is facing a transition in its power supply, as its contract to purchase a large portion of its power supply from the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Generating Station will expire on March 21, 2012. CVPS's last IRP did not specifically examine such power replacement.

In light of these uncertainties, the Board concludes that CVPS's present request for an extension of the October 1, 2011, deadline for filing the next IRP must be denied. CVPS has not demonstrated good cause for an extension that could last for over a year. Considering the date at which CVPS filed its request for an extension, CVPS's new IRP should be nearly complete. Therefore, CVPS shall file its IRP within 30 days of the date of this Order.

SO ORDERED.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2011.

<u>s/James Volz</u>	)	
	)	
	)	PUBLIC SERVICE
<u>s/David C. Coen</u>	)	
	)	BOARD
	)	
<u>s/John D. Burke</u>	)	OF VERMONT

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

FILED: October 17, 2011

ATTEST: s/Judith C. Whitney  
Deputy Clerk of the Board

*NOTICE TO READERS: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Board (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: psb.clerk@state.vt.us)*

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1. The IRP was filed on April 2, 2007.